

## **SOUTH AIKEN HIGH**

232 E. Pine Log Rd.  
Aiken, South Carolina 29803

**GRADES** 9-12 High School

**ENROLLMENT** 1,459 Students

**PRINCIPAL** Dr. Janice Nashatker 803-641-2600

**SUPERINTENDENT** Dr. Linda B. Eldridge 803-641-2428

**BOARD CHAIR** Dr. John B. Bradley 803-641-2431

## **THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

### **ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD**

# 2004

#### **ABSOLUTE RATING:**

**EXCELLENT**

Absolute Ratings of High Schools with Students like Ours

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Unsatisfactory
20	5	0	0	0

#### **IMPROVEMENT RATING:**

**EXCELLENT**

#### **ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS:**

**NO**

This school met 14 out of 17 objectives. The objectives included performance and participation of students in various groups and student attendance rate.

#### **SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL**

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WEBSITES AT:**

**[WWW.MYSCSCHOOLS.COM](http://WWW.MYSCSCHOOLS.COM)**

**[WWW.SCEOC.ORG](http://WWW.SCEOC.ORG)**

**PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD**

	<b>Absolute Rating</b>	<b>Improvement Rating</b>	<b>Adequate Yearly Progress</b>
<b>2001</b>	Excellent	Excellent	N/A
<b>2002</b>	Excellent	Good	N/A
<b>2003</b>	Excellent	Excellent	No
<b>2004</b>	Excellent	Excellent	No

**DEFINITIONS OF DISTRICT RATING TERMS**

- Excellent - District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Good - District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Average - District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Below Average - District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Unsatisfactory - District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

**HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (HSAP) EXAM PASSAGE RATE: SECOND YEAR STUDENTS**

	<b>Our School</b>			<b>High Schools with Students Like Ours</b>		
<b>Percent</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
<b>Passed 2 subtests</b>	81.1	N/A	N/A	82.5	N/A	N/A
<b>Passed 1 subtest</b>	6.8	N/A	N/A	9.9	N/A	N/A
<b>Passed no subtests</b>	12.2	N/A	N/A	8.3	N/A	N/A

**EXIT EXAM PASSAGE RATE BY SPRING 2004**

	<b>Our School</b>	<b>High Schools with Students Like Ours</b>
<b>Percent</b>	97.2%	97.2%

**ELIGIBILITY FOR LIFE SCHOLARSHIP**

<b>Percent of</b>	<b>Our School</b>	<b>High Schools with Students Like Ours</b>
<b>Seniors eligible for LIFE Scholarships at four-year institutions*</b>	35.1	21.4
<b>Seniors who met the SAT/ACT requirement</b>	35.1	22.3
<b>Seniors who met the grade point average</b>	65.6	56.4

\*Using only the SAT/ACT and grade point average requirements

**GRADUATION RATE**

	<b>Our School</b>	<b>High Schools with Students Like Ours</b>
<b>Number of Students</b>	307	327
<b>Number of Diplomas</b>	235	266
<b>Rate</b>	76.5%	82.8%

PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS

	Exit Exam Passage Rate by Spring 2004		Eligibility for LIFE Scholarship		Graduation Rate		
	n	%	n	%	n	%	Met State Objective
All Students	289	97.2	262	35.1	307	76.5	YES
Gender							
Male	152	98.0	118	29.7	155	73.5	N/A
Female	136	96.3	144	39.6	152	79.6	N/A
Racial/Ethnic Group							
White	217	100.0	181	48.1	203	87.2	N/A
African-American	58	87.9	68	2.9	82	52.4	
Asian/Pacific Islander	5	100.0	4	I/S	7	85.7	N/A
Hispanic	6	83.3	8	12.5	13	53.8	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	2	I/S	1	I/S	2	I/S	N/A
Racial/Ethnic Group							
Non disabled	272	98.9	256	35.9	277	81.6	N/A
Disabilities other than speech	17	70.6	6	0.0	30	30.0	N/A
Migrant Status							
Migrant	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
Non-migrant	288	97.2	262	35.1	N/A	N/A	N/A
English Proficiency							
Limited English Proficient	4	I/S	0	N/A	2	I/S	N/A
Non-Limited English Proficient	284	97.5	262	35.1	304	77.3	N/A
Socio-Economic Status							
Subsidized meals	69	88.4	53	0.0	82	46.3	N/A
Full-pay meals	219	100.0	209	44.0	225	87.6	N/A

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample

**HSAP PERFORMANCE BY GROUP**

	<i>Enrollment 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Testing</i>	<i>% Tested</i>	<i>% Below Basic</i>	<i>% Basic</i>	<i>% Proficient</i>	<i>% Advanced</i>	<i>% Proficient and Advanced (adj.)</i>	<i>Performance Objective Met</i>	<i>Participation Objective Met</i>
<b>English/Language Arts - State Performance Objective = 33.3%</b>									
All Students	382	96.6	12.1	14.9	35.9	37.1	76.7	YES	YES
<b>Gender</b>									
Male	199	95.5	14.9	14.9	35.9	34.3	72.9	N/A	N/A
Female	183	97.8	9.0	15.0	35.9	40.1	80.8	N/A	N/A
<b>Racial/Ethnic Group</b>									
White	255	98.4	5.8	10.3	37.6	46.3	87.6	YES	YES
African-American	105	92.4	24.7	28.2	34.1	12.9	50.6	YES	NO
Asian/Pacific Islander	5	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	14	100.0	50.0	14.3	14.3	21.4	35.7	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	2	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
<b>Disability Status</b>									
Not Disabled	343	97.7	7.2	14.7	38.1	40.0	82.2	N/A	N/A
Disabled	39	87.2	67.9	17.9	10.7	3.6	14.3	I/S	I/S
<b>Migrant Status</b>									
Migrant	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Migrant	382	96.6	12.1	14.9	35.9	37.1	76.7	N/A	N/A
<b>English Proficiency</b>									
Limited English Proficient	7	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Non-Limited English Proficient	375	96.5	11.1	15.0	36.1	37.8	77.7	N/A	N/A
<b>Socio-Economic Status</b>									
Subsidized meals	122	95.9	28.8	27.9	29.8	13.5	50.0	YES	YES
Full-pay meals	258	96.9	4.9	9.4	38.5	47.1	88.1	N/A	N/A
<b>Mathematics - State Performance Objective = 30.0%</b>									
All Students	382	95.8	14.4	21.6	27.7	36.3	70.9	YES	YES
<b>Gender</b>									
Male	199	95.5	14.4	22.1	25.4	38.1	71.3	N/A	N/A
Female	183	96.2	14.5	21.1	30.1	34.3	70.5	N/A	N/A
<b>Racial/Ethnic Group</b>									
White	255	98.4	9.1	16.9	28.5	45.5	81.0	YES	YES
African-American	105	88.6	27.4	36.9	28.6	7.1	42.9	YES	NO
Asian/Pacific Islander	5	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	14	100.0	35.7	21.4	7.1	35.7	50.0	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	2	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
<b>Disability Status</b>									
Not Disabled	343	97.1	9.1	21.6	29.8	39.5	75.5	N/A	N/A
Disabled	39	84.6	75.0	21.4	3.6	N/A	17.9	I/S	I/S
<b>Migrant Status</b>									
Migrant	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Migrant	382	95.8	14.4	21.6	27.7	36.3	70.9	N/A	N/A
<b>English Proficiency</b>									
Limited English Proficient	7	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Non-Limited English Proficient	375	95.7	14.1	21.2	28.2	36.5	71.5	N/A	N/A
<b>Socio-Economic Status</b>									
Subsidized meals	122	92.6	33.0	27.2	27.2	12.6	46.6	YES	NO
Full-pay meals	258	97.3	6.6	19.3	27.9	46.3	81.1	N/A	N/A

**Abbreviations for Missing Data**

**N/A** Not Applicable   **N/AV** Not Available   **N/C** Not Collected   **N/R** Not Reported   **I/S** Insufficient Sample

**DEFINITION OF ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS**

As required by the United States Department of Education, adequate yearly progress specifies that the statewide target is met for All Students and for the following subgroups: Racial/Ethnic, Subsidized Meals, Disability, and Limited English Proficiency.

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	High Schools with Students Like Ours	Median High School
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Students (n= 1,459)

Retention rate	8.4%	Down from 9.2%	7.3%	9.1%
Attendance rate	95.5%	Up from 94.7%	95.9%	96.0%
Eligible for gifted and talented	18.3%	Up from 17.1%	10.3%	5.8%
With disabilities other than speech	10.6%	Up from 10.3%	11.1%	12.7%
Older than usual for grade	10.8%	Up from 9.7%	7.3%	9.8%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	1.4%	Up from 0.2%	3.0%	1.6%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	39.4%	Up from 24.0%	15.7%	10.2%
Successful on AP/IB exams	82.3%		63.8%	53.8%
Annual dropout rate	2.2%	Up from 1.0%	2.6%	2.7%
Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	6.0%	Up from 5.1%	4.0%	3.6%
Enrollment in career/technology center courses	802	Up from 740	769	466
Students participating in worked-based experiences	14.3%	Down from 26.4%	22.4%	25.7%
Career/technology students mastering core competencies	72.3%	Up from 68.6%	79.1%	77.7%
Career/technology completers placed	100.0%	No change	100.0%	99.3%

Teachers (n= 78)

Teachers with advanced degrees	55.1%	Up from 48.1%	57.8%	52.0%
Continuing contract teachers	88.5%	Up from 82.3%	88.0%	82.1%
Highly qualified teachers**	82.5%	N/A	89.6%	89.5%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	8.0%		5.6%	8.6%
Teachers returning from previous year	90.3%	Up from 87.2%	89.0%	86.2%
Teacher attendance rate	95.8%	Up from 95.7%	95.8%	95.3%
Average teacher salary	\$42,910	Up 3.4%	\$41,751	\$41,060
Prof. development days/teacher	10.1 days	Up from 7.1 days	10.3 days	10.6 days

School

Principal's years at school	1.0	Down from 8.0	4.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	12.8 to 1	N/R	27.8 to 1	26.4 to 1
Prime instructional time	90.3%	Up from 89.0%	90.6%	90.0%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$5,222	Down 0.9%	\$5,757	\$6,310
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	63.5%	Up from 62.4%	58.2%	57.9%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No change	Excellent	Excellent
Parents attending conferences	60.6%	Up from 42.8%	88.3%	89.3%
SACS accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes	Yes
Character development program	Good	N/A	Good	Good

\* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

	Our District	State
Highly qualified teachers in low poverty schools**	90.4%	92.0%
Highly qualified teachers in high poverty schools**	92.7%	91.1%
	State Objective	Met State Objective
Highly qualified teachers in this school**	65.0%	Yes
Student attendance in this school	95.3%	Yes

\*\*NOTE: The verification process was not completed for the year reported; therefore the count of highly qualified teachers may not be accurate.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample

**REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL**

South Aiken High has an annual enrollment that approaches 1500. About 70% of its graduates pursue post-secondary education, including some of the 12% of the student body with special needs. An additional 15-20% of graduates enter the workforce or the military upon graduation.

The school offers a diverse curriculum with a strong focus on preparation for college. Advanced Placement courses were offered in nine subject areas this year. The school's composite SAT and Exit Exam scores exceed national, state, and/or district averages where appropriate. Advanced Placement test scores exceed national averages in established courses and are increasing in recently established courses.

Students may enroll in career education programs in Business Education, Culinary Arts, Marketing and Distributive Education, and Broadcast Journalism. Students may also participate in district-wide career education programs through the Aiken County Career Center and Aiken High School.

The school's band is consistently rated "Superior" in state band competition. The student-produced literary magazine has been recognized by the South Carolina Scholastic Press Association as "Best in State" for the past two years, "Best in Nation" one year, and "Best Among Southern States" for the past six years. Both the school newspaper and yearbook also have received high honors from SCSA. Student writers have qualified as national semifinalists in the Young Playwright's competition for the past two years. South Aiken's students compete in the Archibald Rutledge Scholarship competition each year, and the school consistently has at least three gifted and talented students selected to attend the prestigious South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts or for Math and Science.

South Aiken has won sixteen athletic championships during its twenty-four years of existence; the most recent being this year's state championship for Men's Golf. Eleven of these titles have been won in the past twelve years. The NJROTC program has won national orienteering championships and has performed very well in academic competition.

The school has received grants and awards resulting in the purchase and installation of computers and technology. Grant monies have supported the arts and career education, as well as the exemplary peer mediation program, which was recognized this year at the state level.

South Aiken has been accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools since its first self-evaluation in 1983. This year it underwent its most recent self-study and was once again accredited. The school annually receives the top rating of "All Clear" from the State Department of Education and holds the distinction of being a "deregulated" school.

The auditorium seating was upgraded this year; a study for continuing renovation is underway. A press box was installed on the softball field, and a landscape upgrade is in progress.

**EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS**

	<b>Teachers</b>	<b>Students*</b>	<b>Parents*</b>
<b>Number of surveys returned</b>	73	273	77
<b>Percent satisfied with learning environment</b>	81.4%	68.4%	82.9%
<b>Percent satisfied with social and physical environment</b>	87.5%	74.2%	69.7%
<b>Percent satisfied with home-school relations</b>	80.0%	78.2%	60.0%

\*Only eleventh grade students and their parents were included. For schools without grade 11, only the highest grade was included.